

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

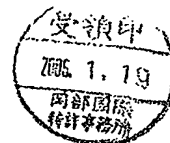
PCT

FIRST NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF
THE COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
APPLICATION (TO DESIGNATED OFFICES WHICH
DO NOT APPLY THE 30 MONTH TIME LIMIT
UNDER ARTICLE 22(1))

(PCT Rule 47.1(c))

To:

OKABE, Masao
No. 602, Fuji Bldg.
2-3, Marunouchi 3-chome
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 1000005
JAPON



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Date of mailing (day/month/year) 12 January 2006 (12.01.2006)		
Applicant's or agent's file reference 10003897WO01		IMPORTANT NOTICE
International application No. PCT/JP2005/010998	International filing date (day/month/year) 09 June 2005 (09.06.2005)	Priority date (day/month/year) 11 June 2004 (11.06.2004)
Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA et al		

1. **ATTENTION:** For any designated Office(s), for which the time limit under Article 22(1), as in force from 1 April 2002 (30 months from the priority date), **does apply**, please see Form PCT/IB/308(Second and Supplementary Notice) (to be issued promptly after the expiration of 28 months from the priority date).

2. Notice is hereby given that the following designated Office(s), for which the time limit under Article 22(1), as in force from 1 April 2002, **does not apply**, has/have requested that the communication of the international application, as provided for in Article 20, be effected under Rule 93bis.1. The International Bureau has effected that communication on the date indicated below:
22 December 2005 (22.12.2005)

CH

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c-bis)(i), those Offices will accept the present notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

3. The following designated Offices, for which the time limit under Article 22(1), as in force from 1 April 2002, **does not apply**, have not requested, as at the time of mailing of the present notice, that the communication of the international application be effected under Rule 93bis.1:

LU, SE, TZ, UG, ZM

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c-bis)(ii), those Offices accept the present notice as conclusive evidence that the Contracting State for which that Office acts as a designated Office does not require the furnishing, under Article 22, by the applicant of a copy of the international application.

4. **TIME LIMITS for entry into the national phase**

For the designated Office(s) listed above, and unless a demand for international preliminary examination has been filed before the expiration of **19 months** from the priority date (see Article 39(1)), the applicable time limit for entering the national phase will, **subject to what is said in the following paragraph**, be **20 MONTHS** from the priority date.

In practice, **time limits other than the 20-month time limit** will continue to apply, for various periods of time, in respect of certain of the designated Offices listed above. For regular updates on the applicable time limits (20 or 21 months, or other time limit), Office by Office, refer to the *PCT Gazette*, the *PCT Newsletter* and the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Volume II, National Chapters, all available from WIPO's Internet site, at <http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/index.html>.

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to monitor all these time limits.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Masashi Honda
Facsimile No.+41 22 740 14 35	Facsimile No.+41 22 338 70 10

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:
OKABE, Masao
No. 602, Fuji Bldg.
2-3, Marunouchi 3-chome
Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 1000005
JAPAN



NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND
THE WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
SEARCHING AUTHORITY, OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 1 0003897W001	Date of mailing (day/month/year) 05/12/2005
International application No. PCT/JP2005/010998	International filing date (day/month/year) 09/06/2005
Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA	

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority have been established and are transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the International Application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally two months from the date of transmittal of the International Search Report.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Facsimile No.: (41-22) 338.82.70

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.
3. ☐ **With regard to the protest** against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:
- ☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.
- ☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. Reminders

Shortly after the expiration of **18 months** from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

The applicant may submit comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Searching Authority to the International Bureau. The International Bureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an international preliminary examination report has been or is to be established. These comments would also be made available to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date.

Within **19 months** from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until **30 months** from the priority date (in some Offices even later); otherwise, the applicant must, **within 20 months** from the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices.

In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of **30 months** (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months.

See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Alicja Van der Heijden

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 10003897W001	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/JP2005/010998	International filing date (day/month/year) 09/06/2005	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 11/06/2004
Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. _____

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International Application No
 PCT/JP2005/010998

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER C08G63/688 C08G63/06 C08G63/91		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) C08G		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 1 336 635 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 20 August 2003 (2003-08-20) claim 2	1
A	WO 2004/038512 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA; MIHARA, CHIEKO; YANO, TETSUYA; KOZAKI, SHINYA;) 6 May 2004 (2004-05-06) claim 1	3
A	WO 2004/044213 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA; KENMOKU, TAKASHI; YANO, TETSUYA; MIHARA, CHIEK) 27 May 2004 (2004-05-27) claim 1	4
P,A	WO 2004/061530 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA; MIHARA, CHIEKO; YANO, TETSUYA; KOZAKI, SHINYA;) 22 July 2004 (2004-07-22) claim 1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents : *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *&* document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
25 November 2005		05/12/2005
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer
		Niaounakis, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP2005/010998

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1336635	A	20-08-2003	CN 1446835 A	08-10-2003
			JP 3689697 B2	31-08-2005
			JP 2004197063 A	15-07-2004
			US 2004081906 A1	29-04-2004
WO 2004038512	A	06-05-2004	AU 2003274744 A1	13-05-2004
			US 2005260514 A1	24-11-2005
WO 2004044213	A	27-05-2004	AU 2003274742 A1	03-06-2004
			JP 2004162044 A	10-06-2004
WO 2004061530	A	22-07-2004	AU 2003295241 A1	29-07-2004
			EP 1579277 A1	28-09-2005
			JP 2005154699 A	16-06-2005

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/JP2005/010998

International filing date (day/month/year)
09.06.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)
11.06.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
C08G63/688, C08G63/06, C08G63/91

Applicant
CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☒ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas
Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl
Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016

Authorized Officer

Niaounakis, M

Telephone No. +31 70 340-3818



WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITYInternational application No.
PCT/JP2005/010998

10/567762

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ in written format
 - ☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/JP2005/010998

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-10
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Box No. VI Certain documents cited

1. Certain published documents (Rules 43bis.1 and 70.10)

and / or

2. Non-written disclosures (Rules 43bis.1 and 70.9)

see form 210

Re Item V.

Reference is made to the following documents (D1-D3), especially to the passages referred to in the Search Report; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

- D1 : EP 1 336 635 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 20 August 2003 (2003-08-20)
- D2: WO 2004/038512 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA; MIHARA, CHIEKO; YANO, TETSUYA; KOZAKI, SHINYA;) 6 May 2004 (2004-05-06)
- D3: WO 2004/044213 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA; KENMOKU, TAKASHI; YANO, TETSUYA; MIHARA, CHIEK) 27 May 2004 (2004-05-27)

D1 relates to a polyxyhydroxyalkanoate which contains a unit having an amide group and a sulfonic acid group on a side-chain. However, the structure of the side-chain of the polyhydroxyalkanoate of D1 is different from the side-chain of the polyhydroxyalkanoate of the present application (formula 1 of claim 1) because it contains additionally a sulfide group (-S-).

D2 relates to a polyhydroxyalkanoate copolymer which contains a unit having a carboxyl group on a side chain. Although the side-chain of the polyhydroxyalkanoate of D1 is similar to the side-chain of the polyhydroxyalkanoate of the present application (formula 5 of claim 3), the structure of its main-chain is different.

D3 relates to a polyhydroxyalkanoate copolymer which contains a unit having a vinyl group on a side chain. Although the side-chain of the polyhydroxyalkanoate of D1 is similar to the side-chain of the polyhydroxyalkanoate of the present application (formula 6 of claim 4), the structure of its main-chain is different.

Therefore, the subject-matter of claims: 1-10 is considered to be novel and inventive (Article 33(1)(2)(3) PCT).

Furthermore, all claims fulfill the requirements of industrial applicability (Article 33(4) PCT).

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